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A S P E E C H

DELIVERED TO
HIS MAJESTY

In the Name of the

French Church

AT THE

S A V O Y:

Containing their Humble Thanks for

HIS MAJESTIES

D E C L A R A T I O N

In favor of those of the F R E N C H Nation,
Residing within HIS Dominions.

By *A. Lombard*, Minister of the said Church.

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A SPEECH delivered to His Majesty
in the Name of the *French Church* at
the *Savoy*: Containing their humble
Thanks for His Majesties *Declaration*
in favor of those of the *French Nation*,
residing within His Dominions.

May it please Your Sacred Majesty,



Is the French Church at
the *Savoy*, which now
craveth Your Royal and
Favorable Audience: And
I bring along with me to
it, all the Hearts and all the
Vows of those of that Na-
tion, who help to compose
that Body.

As I have the honor usually to speak on their
behalf to GOD; so have they given me the
honorable Commission to speak this day in their
Names to His VICEGERENT, one of
the most August Lieutenants of the DIVINE
MAJESTY, whereof *Yours* is a most living
Character. Neither was it possible (SIRE)

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to be silent, where there is so great cause to speak, considering the fresh Testimony of Your most Royal Bounty, which we have so lately received by Your Majesties Declaration in favour of our Nation, whereby You are pleased to suffer their abode in Your Dominions, under the shadow and protection of Your own Throne. How could we forbear after this surprizing G R A C E, and extraordinary F A V O U R, at the least to evidence in some measure unto Your Sacred Majesty, what our Hearts are big with on this eminent Occasion; and in this Important conjuncture, to testify some part of our Duty and Acknowledgments? Which (S I R E) are so full, that we cannot possibly produce them all together, nor in their reall extents, for they loose considerably whilest they are rising from our Hearts but to our Lips, such are our transports and our joyes within.

Each good French-man within Your Kingdomes, is doubtless full of this sense, and especially such whom You permit here to enjoy the greatest and most deare of all Interests, and to be as it were linked unto Your own Crown, by the Sacred ties of Religion, and by the Sympathy of the same F A I T H. But (G R E A T S I R) suffer us, we beseech You, to presume that our Church and Congregation may challenge a Right for her particular Application upon the occasion of this Your General Declaration; and that she ought to behold it with an Eye and Light much differing from the rest of the French; and that discerning therein a more especial concernment and interest, she hath with reason imposed on her self a more singular way of acknowledgment.

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No doubt (SIRE) but all Men will observe no less then we do, an infinite *Charity* in this Your most Prudent Declaration: All Strangers, Your generous *Hospitality*; And all *French*, an incomparable *Generosity*. The wise and knowing, will admire in it Your wonderful penetrating Spirit, as well as Your preventive Policy, which foils and disappoints all the pernicious designs of that of Your Enemies, who must now be obliged to confess, That Your Majesty understands the Art of Reigning in our Hearts, and hath found out an infallible way how to make good Subjects of Natural *Frenchmen*, even while they remain such. Certainly all Christendom will discover in every part of it, the perfect *Genius* of Christianity, and will be surprized to see the Spirit of Peace, thus reigning in a Declaration of War. All of the Protestant Profession may learn by it; that Your Majesty doth indeed consider Your Divine Title of DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, as the most beautiful Flower of Your *Diadem*.

They must consider You, Great Sir, from *All the ends of the Earth*, where Divine Providence hath placed them, as the Supream Head of the Reformed World, as the Angel of the Church, and the Light of *Israel*: And especially the Protestants of our Nation, who remain within Your Majesties Dominions, and have embraced with us the Reformation, and Discipline of the Church of *England*, have already, doubtless, with extream satisfaction observed, in this Your Majesties Declaration (or rather Oracle) all the Illumination, Piety, Prudence, and Moderation, which every day they so earnestly pray to GOD for upon

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Your

Your Majesty, in their holy Prayers and Devotions.

Permit us (SIRE) to repeat it once again, but in few words, lest we abuse Your Royal Patience; That our Church upon this occasion enters into further and more particular thoughts and reflections; and that she enjoys the taste of this Your Majesties benignity, with more delight and sweetness, then the rest of the *French*, who have it common with us, because it is a Church which hath the honor to be Your own Workmanship, and owes its Establishment and Subsistence to Your Self.

She looks upon You (GREAT SIR) as her Founder and *Patriarch*. It was Your Majesty, that like another *Apollo*, did fix this floating Island; You provided rest for this *Ark*, and when we have the Blessing there to present our selves frequently before the Throne of Grace, we remember, that it is evermore under the blessed shadow and auspicious protection of that of Your Majestie. Therefore as this Church hath been confirmed in her first Priviledges by that Your Majesties wise, Christian, and Protestant Declaration; and that withal, Your Majesty doth thereby sustain her, even when in appearance she was at the point to fall; and that some were prone to believe, that the very Interests of State required her entire destruction;

Is it not so (most Gracious Sovereign) that she is under a double Obligement to Your Majesty for her conservation and settlement? And that You are now, as it were, a second time her Founder and her Father? And that therefore, albeit the Oracle, by which she subsists still, were pronounced

pronounced in behalf of all the *French*, it appears how much more especially it touches and concerns those Members, out of which her Body is framed? And it is also most evident and certain, That our Acknowledgments ought to be, and are much more strong and passionate then those of others.

But (Gracious Sir) what is there we can do, that may in any measure express it? We have nothing but faint words, and useless thanks to present You with, for that Royal Word (in the terms of Your own Declaration) for that great and saving Word issued from the Royal Mouth of our *Cyrus*, in favor of all our Tribe. Such yet as they are, these thanks, these words, we are bold to offer them to Your Majesty, as we do most humbly; as sincere, as faithful, as true, as are the words of the Soul it self, her thoughts and motions.

In this sort onely it is, that we presume to tell Your Sacred Majesty, (though in terms, it may be, like Hearts filled with Zeal and Submission) that we render You Declaration for Declaration; and that we think we can not better answer that which Your Majesty hath been pleased to publish in our Favor, then by that we now make to Your Majesty; which is, That we shall never cease to have for Your Majesty, all the Loyalty and Reverence, all the tenderness, zeal, and utmost duty, which the most humble, most obedient, and most faithful of all Your Majesties Subjects and Servants do ow You.

F I N I S.